

In response to the Examiner's comments in Section 4(e) of the Office action, and in view of the non-entry of the previous amendments of 1 Aug 2006, 16 Nov 2006, & 12 February 2007 as being non-compliant, applicants present the following amended claims based on the claims as filed 22 January 2004.

Claim Amendments

Please enter the following claims 1--20.

1. (Currently Amended)

A window construction comprising

an exterior frame including at least four integrally formed frame corners and at least four lineal rails joined between said frame corners to define the exterior shape of the frame outer edges and the shape of the edges of an interior opening surrounded by the frame, the lineal rails providing the header, sill, and jambs of the frame;

the joints of said formed corners and rails having ~~water-tight~~ complementary rigid joint sections integral with the respective frame corners and rails and interfitted to which present a smooth exterior at least on the exteriorly visible parts of the joints,

said corners and rails also having integral exterior frame flanges extending outward thereof for attachment of the assembled window into a window aperture,

said corners and rails having at least one frame channel extending about the interior opening to receive and support at least one window pane, and

said rails and corners being formed from essentially the same material.

2. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 1, wherein said joint sections ~~have~~ include ~~closely interfitted~~ spline sections integrally formed on said corners and complementary interior sections in at least the ends of said rails so as to receive said spline sections and with which form the rigid water-tight joint joints.

3. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 2, wherein a sealant is added to the joint sections as they are assembled and interfitted to form a water-tight joint joints.

4. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 2, wherein said joint sections comprise male spline fittings of predetermined irregular external cross-section on said frame corners and said rails comprise lineal extrusion pieces having an essentially matching internal cross-section complementary to said spline fittings so as to receive and surround said male splines of said formed frame corners.

5. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 1, wherein said joint sections have compatible mating profiles that are ~~joined by welding~~ welded together to form a water-tight joint.

6. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, wherein said frame channel receives the edges of a sash construction,

said sash construction including at least one set of four sash lineal pieces and at least four ~~integral~~ integrally formed single piece sash corners including integral splines joined to define at least one sash frame dimensioned to fit within said frame channel,

said sash lineal pieces and formed sash corners defining the exterior shape of the sash frame outer edges to conform to the channels, and also defining the shape of the edges of an interior opening surrounded by the frame, said lineal pieces providing the header, sill, and jambs of the sash frame;

said sash pieces and corners forming a sash channel to receive a at least one window pane within the sash frame,

at least one of said sash frames being movable along its channel such that the jambs of the two sashes overlap and close the interior opening of the exterior frame, and to positions along its channel wherein the window is partially opened.

7. (Currently amended)

The window construction defined in claim 6, wherein both sashes are movable so as to provide an opening at either side of said frame channel.

8. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 6, wherein said sash lineal extrusion pieces and integral single piece formed corners are produced from the same compatible materials as the exterior window frame.

9. (Original) A window construction as defined in claim 6, wherein the sashes include sash joint sections having closely interfitting spline sections which form the water-tight joint.

10. (Currently amended)

A window construction as defined in claim 9, wherein said sash single piece joint sections comprise male spline fittings of predetermined irregular cross-section on said integral formed sash corners and said sash lineal rails having essentially matching internal cross-section to receive said male splines of said integral formed sash corners.

11. (Original) A window construction as defined in claim 5, wherein the lineal pieces are extruded of a synthetic material and the integrally formed corners are molded of compatible synthetic materials.

12. (Original) A window construction as defined in claim 5, wherein there are multiple separate channels in the exterior window frame, and one of said channels is adapted to receive a frame carrying a screen and/or an insulating window pane.

13. (Original) A window construction as defined in claim 5, wherein at least the sill has an outwardly and downwardly sloped surface to drain moisture to the exterior of the window frame.

14. (Currently amended)

The method of constructing a window comprising the steps of,

a) building an exterior frame from at least four formed integral frame corners of moldable synthetic material and at least four lineal rails joined between the frame corners to define the exterior shape of the exterior frame outer edges and the shape of the edges of an interior opening surrounded by the frame, whereby the rails provide the header, sill, and jambs of the window frame;

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b) molding the corners and extruding the lineal extrusion pieces from compatible synthetic materials and including integral main frame flanges extending outward thereof for attachment of the assembled window into a window aperture, and

c) forming on the corners and on the lineal rails at least one frame channel extending about the interior opening to receive and support a at least one window pane.

15. (Currently amended)

The method of claim 14, comprising the additional steps of,

d) forming joint sections comprising male splines and shrouds of predetermined irregular cross-section on the corners, and

e) forming the lineal rails so as to have essentially matching internal cross-sections to receive the male splines and overlapping shrouds of said formed corners, and

f) joining the male spline fittings and shrouds into the matching internal cross-sections of the lineal rails to form rigid water-tight joints.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, comprising the additional steps of,

g) in step (c) forming at least one frame channel in the lineal rails and in the corners, which channels are aligned to receive the edges of a sash construction,

h) forming a sash construction including at least one set of four sash rails and at least four integrally formed sash corners,

i) joining the sash lineal rails and sash corners to define at least one sash frame dimensioned to fit within the channel, whereby the lineal sash rails and formed sash corners define the exterior shape of the sash frame outer edges to conform to the frame channel, and also define the shape of the edges of an interior opening surrounded by the frame,

j) mounting the sash in the frame channel.

17. (Currently amended)

The method defined in claim 14, wherein the integrally formed frame corners and the lineal rails are formed of a vinyl material.

18. (original) The method defined in claim 14, welding compatible mating profiles of joint sections to form rigid water-tight joints.

19. (Currently amended)

An integrally formed single piece corner section for a window framework, comprising

a integral central body having diverging end sections arranged at a predetermined angle to each other,

said end sections including protruding male splines extending from said end sections and aligned at a predetermined angle to each other and having a predetermined irregular cross-section which will fit closely within the ends of lineal rails of the framework to establish rigid finished water-tight corners of the framework.

20. (Currently amended)

A formed window corner section as defined in claim 19, wherein said male splines are each provided with predetermined irregular cross-section which match openings at the ends of lineal rails having essentially complementary internal cross-section to receive said male splines of said formed corners and form a rigid water-tight joint.